

Please amend Claims 1, 2, 5, 14-16, 21, 22, 33-35, and 39 as follows:

A2
--- 1. (amended) A shaped article comprising a continuous first polymer phase having dispersed therein microbeads of a cross-linked second polymer, said microbeads being bordered by void space, wherein the monomers from which the second polymer is derived are selected to provide microbeads that are thermally stable, wherein said monomers comprise less than 10 wt% styrenic monomers and comprise monomers selected from the group consisting of acrylic and allylic monomers, wherein thermally stable means that the temperature at which the microbeads experience a 2% weight loss is above 270°C.

2. (amended) The article of claim 1 wherein the monomers from which the second polymer is derived contain less than one wt% styrenic monomers.

A3
5. (amended) The article of claim 1 wherein the monomers from which the second polymer is derived comprise acrylic monomers.

14. (amended) The article of claim 1 wherein the first polymer comprises a polyester or polypropylene polymer.

A4
15. (amended) The article of claim 14 wherein the first polymer comprises a polyester polymer.

16. (amended) The article of claim 15 wherein the first polymer is poly(ethylene terephthalate).

A5
21. (amended) A shaped article comprising a continuous first polymer phase having dispersed therein microbeads of a cross-linked second polymer, said microbeads being bordered by void space, wherein the monomers from which the second polymer is derived comprise not more than 10 wt%

As Contd

styrenic monomer and comprise methacrylate monomers, and wherein the microbeads are made from acrylic crosslinking monomers such that the microbeads are thermally stable meaning that the temperature at which the microbeads experience a 2% weight loss is above 270°C.

22. (amended) The article of claim 21 wherein the second polymer comprises less than one wt% styrenic monomer.

33. (amended) The article of claim 21 wherein the first polymer comprises a polyester or polypropylene polymer.

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34. (amended) The article of claim 21 wherein the first polymer comprises a polyester polymer.

35. (amended) The article of claim 34 wherein the first polymer is poly(ethylene terephthalate).

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39. (amended) The article of claim 1 wherein the shaped article is a fiber, a rod, a tube, a sheet, a film, or a container. --

Please add the following new Claims 42 and 43:

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42. A dye diffusion thermal transfer receiving sheet comprising a continuous first polymer phase having dispersed therein microbeads of a cross-linked second polymer, said microbeads being bordered by void space, wherein the monomers from which the second polymer is derived comprise not more than 10 wt% styrenic monomer and wherein the monomers from which the second polymer is derived are selected from the group consisting of acrylic and allylic monomers, such that the microbeads are thermally stable meaning that the temperature at which the microbeads experience a 2% weight loss is above 270°C.

43. The sheet of claim 42 wherein the second polymer is derived from monomers comprising more than 20 wt % of crosslinking monomer.